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The Quatrains of Baba Tahir, edited and translated by Syed Ali Bilgrami.

Mr. Edward Heron-Allen has published an English translation of the Quatrains of Baba Tahir, under the title of "The Lament of Baba Tahir." The translation is a very creditable performance, without But, I am afraid, his version of the text is not always correct, nor are all the sixty-two Quatrains he has put together Baba Tahir's. Those numbering 15, 34, and 56 in Mr. Allen's book bear unmistakable evidence of having been written by someone else. The style, metre, and language employed in no way resemble Baba Tahir's. As for the inaccuracies of the text, I have thought it fit to correct them and give a prose translation, adhering as far as possible to Mr. Allen's words. Indeed at one time I had an idea of issuing a new edition of the Quatrains myself. But the advice of my learned friend, the Hon'ble Nawab Imad-ud-Mulk, Bahadur, whom I consulted on the matter, has prevailed with me so far, that I have decided to restrict myself to the less pretentious task of revising Mr. Allen's translation in the way I have indicated. And I trust that my work will be found useful by the students of Persian Literature.

Before proceeding, however, to point out, and correct the inaccuracies in the text of the Quatrains, as given by Mr. Allen, I should like to say a few words about the date of Baba Tahir's birth.

In his introduction to "The Lament of Baba Tahir," Mr. Allen gives 410 A.H. as the date of the Baba's death. Riza Quli Khan in his volume of "The Majma-ul-Fusaha" gives the same date, and considers the Baba to be a contemporary of the Dailamite Dynasty. I quite agree with Riza Quli Khan in that opinion, as the Dailamites reigned between 321 and 487 A.H. corresponding to 933 and 1094 of the Chris-The Seljuks began their reign from the time of Mas'ud (1031) Christian era), the grandson of Mahmud of Ghazni. That Baba Tahir lived before Firdusi, Ansuri, and others, there exists no manner of doubt, as these were the poets of the court of Mahmud, and Mahmud was before the Seljuks came into power. The Baba must therefore have died about 410 A.H. because, in the first place, his Quatrain No. 29 he tells us that he was born in 326 A.H., and, next, he died, from all accounts, a very old man. According to the Abjad system of chronography, letters have numerical values; and it is well known that this fact is taken advantage of by oriental writers to denote events. And this is exactly what Baba Tahir has done in the quatrain above referred to which runs as follows:—

Letters have two kinds of values, the ¿; Zabar "written," i.e., the value of the letter itself, and the بينات Baiyyinat, i.e., the value of the other letters, besides the Zabar which give the spelling of the name of the letter, and both put together are called Zabar and Baiyyinat. For instance الغن) Alif has its own value as one, and this is called the Zabar of alif; but the name of the letter is pronounced it alif, therefore the letters ل lam and غ fa are the Baiyyinats of I that is I (الف) has two values, the Zabar of الف alif is i=1; and the Baiyyinat of are J lam and ightharpoonup fa = 30 + 80 = 110; and the Zabar and Baiyyinat together will give the value of الف as 111. So the letter t while generally standing for one, may sometimes stand for 1+3+3+30+80=111. Now let us apply both these methods of valuation, so to say, to the fourth line of the quatrain quoted above. The poet says "I am the Alif kadd who has come in Alf." According to the Zubur method, adding the values of the letters composing الف قد alif kadd and الف قد alif together we get the following result:-

Summing them up we have 1+30+80+100+4+1+30+80=32 and this 26 is the year of the poet's birth. Sometimes an Arabic word

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stance, in the very first line of this quatrain where the Poet says in the very first line of this quatrain where the Poet says and the sea), meaning عرب darya; now the word darya is Persian for على and the numerical values of the letters of darya add up to 215, i.e., s=4; s=200; s=10 and s=1, s=215. The numerical values of the letters of his own name على Tahir also number up to 215, so that when he says he is the sea, على darya he means that. Similarly, the word على Alf, a thousand, is Arabic for the Persian على hazar. If we take the values of the letters of the second system, that is the Zabar and the Baiyyinat together, the result is as follows:—

أف=6; الف=8; الف=111; الم=201, total 326, the same figure. He says he is the جوريا or الماء =(215) Tahir numerically; so again the words الف قد give the same number according to Zabar:

$$l=1;$$
  $l=30;$   $l=30;$   $l=30;$   $l=4;$ 

total 215. Here he says he is the علم i.e., علم المن المن المن Tahir. From the preceding statement it will be seen that his date of birth, as given by himself, is 326 A.H. and the fourth line of Quatrain No. 29 is the chronogram of his birth.

1.

- 1. Happy are they who always see thy face.
- 2. Who talk with thee, and sit with thee.
- 3. If I have no leg to come to see thee.
- 4. I will go and see those who see thee.

There is no such word as زمان for زمان. We have the word هزمان the contraction of هرزمان and the line has been correctly given now as خوشا کنان که هزمان روته وین

2

- 1. Without thee, I pray to God, may rose never grow in the garden.
  - 2. If it do grow, may none ever smell it.
  - 3. Without thee, should the heart ever open its lips to laugh.
  - 4. May its cheeks never be cleansed of its heart's blood.

The expression بارب literally means "O Lord," but is sometimes used as a prayer and is not directly addressed to God; sometimes it expresses wonder and astonishment. The Quatrain is addressed to the Poet's beloved, and not to God, as it is obvious that nothing will grow without God. The second line supports this, as here the poet says, "if it do grow." Cf. the word بارب in Quatrain No. 57, line 4th, where it is similarly used. From the note on page 67, it appears that the transla-

tor has taken the word خنده الله as the dialectal form of and has translated it as such. But it is not so, the idiom خنده لب گشروی means to open the lips to smile or laugh.

3.

The translation of this Quatrain read with the footnotes is quite correct, and requires no comment.

4.

- 1. I am troubled by (the phrase) "They said yes."
- 2. I have more sins than the leaves of trees.
- 3. When to-morrow the readers of the book (of deeds) read their books.
  - 4. I, book in hand, shall hang my head.

In the 2nd line, the word دارون darūn, is the plural of الله a tree. It has no connection whatsoever with دارون dar, the gallows, nor with دارون baryan, an elm. The word برگ bary should be read برگ barg-i, i.e., "leaves of."

In the 3rd line in the readers of the book does not mean the Recording Angels. According to the Mussulmans every person's deeds are recorded by the Recording Angels in a book, called the book of deeds. On the day of judgment everyone is given his book to read his own deeds out of, in the presence of God. Here the poet says that when those with clean sheets read their books, I, being a sinful person, with my book in hand, shall hold my head down."

5.

- 1. Lord! who am I, and with whom should I associate?
- 2. How long should I be with lashes full of bloody tears?
- 3. When all turn me away from their doors, I come to thee.
- 4. And if Thou turnest me away from Thy door, to whom shall I go?

The word بوشم is synonymous with both باشم and بوشم. In the lst and 2nd lines بوشم means باشم ; but in the 4th line it means

The word الله is synonymous with الله الله الله baz, and means "to," "return to," or "turn to." The expression الله baz khanah shud means, "he returned home." سوي تو means سوته "towards thee," and it is not correct to take it as the dialectal form of بسوخته.

- 1. In this homeless state to whom shall I go?
- 2. With this houselessness to whom shall I turn?

3. (When) all drive me away from their door, I come to Thee.

4. If Thou turn me away from Thy door to whom shall I go?

In the text, the 3rd line begins with من ham, but it should be hamam, otherwise the metre will be injured. It will be observed here that the word بركبانشم in بركبانشم respectively mean "to," "toward," and من "to go," which has been alluded to in the note on Quatrain No. 5.

7.

1. If Thou killest us miserably, whom fearest Thou?

2. And if Thou drivest (us) with despair whom fearest Thou?

3. I, with this half a heart fear none.

4. Thou (who) possessest a heart as large as the two worlds whom fearest Thou?

In the 4th line در عالم دل or even جهاني دل translated into English would mean "a world of hearts" or "a world full of hearts." In the 2nd line عر gar is better than ال ar, since there is no necessity for using this form.

8.

1. If we are the drunkard of drunkards, we are Thine.

2. And if we are helpless, we are Thine (we belong to Thee).

3. Whether we be Guebres, Christians or Muslims,

4. In whatsoever religion we be, we belong to Thee.

The words مستان مست mastan-i-mast is similar to the form مستان مست . .e., drunkard of drunkards, or arch-drunkard or arch-tippler.

The word ايمون is another plural form of ايمون and is not the dialectal form of ايمون faith, which is an Arabic word. The poet means that whatever we are, drunkards or indigent and helpless, we belong to Thee. This word ايمون has been misunderstood, hence the error. Observe that the grammatical construction also becomes faulty, by adopting the translator's reading.

9.

1. He who has suffered grief knows the tune of lamentation,

2. (Just as) the crucible knows (detects) the value of pure gold.

3. Come ye heart-burnt that we may lament together,

4. For the heart-burnt knows the worth of the heart-burnt.

The word بوته buta means a crucible, as has rightly been translated; but in the translator's remark regarding the elimination of the خ in it should be observed that in بوته اندوته it should be observed that in بوته بوته اندوته it has been eliminated; in بوته and بوته it has. The word پوته puta, means a bag of

money, but it is not applicable here. It also means a place where money is kept, a treasury.

10.

- 1. A garden the branches of whose trees hang out,
  - 2. Its gardener is ever in bitter grief (always has a bleeding heart).
  - 3. It (the tree) should be plucked out root and all,
  - 4. Even though its fruit be rubies and pearls.

I cannot understand why "the intention of this quatrain completely baffles Mr. Heron-Allen." The meaning is very clear. The author means that when a garden contains a tree whose branches reach out of the garden, i.e., are beyond the vigilance of the gardener, the gardener has always a bleeding heart for this very reason. This alludes to the beloved one who constantly goes out; the lover wants her all to himself, and cannot bear to see her lavishing her charms upon others. Hence the jealousy, and the suggestion to pluck her out (by the root) entirely from his heart, though she be the loveliest. Instances of such expressions of jealousy are constantly found in oriental poetry.

### 11.

- 1. O heart, thy path is clear of brambles and thorns,
- 2. Thy passage (journey) is on the heights of heaven.
- 3. And if thou caust, thy skin from thy body
- 4. Cast off, so that thy load may become light.

The word بي in the 1st and 2nd lines - باشد but in the 4th line it is equal to بشود "may become."

In the 1st line read "without," "clear of," instead of "full of." I do not find any obscurity in the meaning of this Quatrain; the translator's remark is incomprehensible, where he says "the meaning is exceedingly obscure." The poet addressing his heart says, "thy path is clear of thorns and brambles, and thy road leads to the heavens; in attempting that flight if thou art able to cast off thy skin do so, so that thy burden become lightened and thy progress be still further accelerated."

12.

- 1. Come, let us, the burnt in heart, gather round,
- 2. Converse together and exhibit our griefs
- 3. Let us bring scales and weigh our woes,
- 4. Whichsoever of us is more burnt, will weigh the heavier.

I have read the 2nd line in the way it is given in my corrected text, as غماكشانيم instead of غماكشانيم. The poet calls the woe-stricken together to converse and exhibit their woes, and to weigh their griefs,

so that whoever has suffered more grief will certainly weigh heavier than the rest.

#### 13.

- 1. Come, O Ye burnt-in-heart, that we may lament,
- 2. Let us groan (or lament) over the absence of that lovely rose;
- 3. Let us go to the rose-garden with the ecstatic nightingale,
- 4. And if she lament not, let us lament.

# 14.

- 1. I was (like) a falcon and I went to chase (my prey),
- 2. When a black-eyed one struck an arrow on my wing (pierced my wing).
- 3. Go, but graze not heedlessly on the mountains;
- 4. He who grazes heedlessly, gets struck with an arrow unawares. سية چشم means "black-eyed," but never "evil-eyed," which is شور چشم shur cashm.

In the 4th line, the word غافل is used in two different senses, the first غافل means "careless," "heedless," the second "unawares," synony. mous with ناگهای. Black-eyes are admired by the Orientals, hence the application of سرعه or kuhl-Sulphide of antimony—to make them look black. سیه چشم means one with a black-eye, i.e., a beauty. تیر خوردی = تیر خوردی be struck with an arrow.

#### 16.

- 1. 'Tis through the mischief working of the heaven's revolution,
- 2. That the eye of my wound is always full of brine (salt).
- 3. If the smoke of my sighs soars to heaven,
- 4. The flood of my tears runs down to Samak.

sprinkled on a wound it causes smarting and irritation. Observe the play upon the words شرودن and شرودن means saltish, as well as mutiny, rebellion, a brawl from شوريدن to rebel, to mutiny. The translator has taken شوريدن to mean "wounded eye" where the word نقم is used adjectively, but that is not correct. شمر زخم means the eye or the opening of the wound, the Kasra being for اضافت izafat or the possessive, and not for Sifat, adjective. The similarity between the shape of a wound or incision and the eye, will not escape the student's detecting eye.

- 1. O Lord! so afflicted am I by this heart,
- 2. Night and day I am in torment through this heart.

- 3. I have groaned so much that it (the heart) has killed me of groaning.
  - 4. Take it from me as I am weary of this heart.

In the 3rd line the word is neither کشي Kas, nor کشت Kushi, but کشت to kill. Kushi cripples the metre too.

#### 18.

- 1. I, who wander in the desert night and day
- 2. And shed tears from my eyes night and day,
- 3. No fever have I, nor does any part of me ache,
- 4. This only do I know that I am groaning night and day.

## 19.

- 1. The heart is a pest, a plague, a plague;
- 2. The eyes sin, but the heart is afflicted;
- 3. If the eyes see not a lovely face,
- 4. What does the heart know, where the beauties are?

#### 20.

- 1. From the tyranny of both eyes and heart I cry,
- 2. For, whatever the eyes see, the heart remembers.
- 3. I will make a dagger whose point will be of steel,
- 4. And shall strike it on my eyes, so that the heart may become free.

It is not necessary to use the letter is always instead of s. I have never heard or seen فریاد or خریاد spelt with instead of with s. The case is

different with پولاد which has been spelt invariably with both and i. In the 3rd line either بسرجم may be used, but not بسرجم which is derived from an entirely different verb سرختن = سرجیدن to burn.

21.

- 1. I have a heart that has no good in it,
- 2. However I counsel it, it profits not;
- 3. I cast it to the winds, but the wind does not carry it.
- 4. I put it on the fire, it does not smoke (or burn).

The word ميبرو should be with و which is the dialectal form and not with s which is Persian.

Here, too, as in the preceding Quatrain is need not necessarily be used for in the words ود - سود - بهبود or in اباد. It appears like a forced expression and not natural, and savours of affectation. The word نبيباشد - نبیباشد - نبیباشد

22.

- 1. I am that wastrel whose name is Kalandar,
- 2. I have no home, no abode, and no vessel;
- 3. When the day comes, I wander round the earth (world).
- 4. When night falls, I lay my head on a brick.

The word انگر and انگر both mean a large vessel here and not an anchor, خشت is an unburnt brick.

23.

- 1. In the whole world there is no moth like me.
- 2. In the Universe there is not a mad man like me.
- 3. All the serpents and the ants have nests,
- 4. But for poor me, there is not even a ruin.

I have read it somewhere as بكيتي "in the Universe," instead of in the 2nd line, and this I have substituted.

24.

- 1. In the field of my thought naught grows save grief,
- 2. In my garden nothing grows but the flower of mourning.
- 3. In the desert of my unproductive heart,
- 4. Not even the herbage of despair grows.

In the text in the 2nd line, the word injures the metre, and Mr. Allen has rightly noticed it. It should be to give the "correct scansion."

In the 3rd line means "giving or yielding no produce," the word in Agriculture means "the produce."

The dot of i had better be omitted in the word ميدى.

J. I. 2

- 1. I have a delicate heart like glass.
- 2. I fear for it whenever I heave a sigh;
- 3. It is no wonder if my tears are like blood,
- 4. I am that tree whose roots are set in blood.

The poet likens his heart to the glass; it is so fragile that it may break even by a sigh.

In the 3rd line ني should be substituted for نيست and in the 4th line درم a tree for درم.

26.

- 1. Had I only one pain (anguish), what should I care?
- 2. And if my sorrows were trifling, what should I care?
- 3. Near my bed, my beloved or my physician,
- 4. If either one were present, what should I care?

Mr. Allen has evidently read the lines in the Persian way and therefore remarks that they are "pure Persian." But in Raji the letter preceding the of the 1st person has always a zamma and so the words would be pronounced عام عليه balinum عنيه habibum, etc., and not عليه balinam. It must be observed that the zamma represents the pleonastic واو in such cases.

#### 27.

- 1. In wailing, my heart is like a flute,
- 2. The anguish of thy separation is ever at my heels
- 3. I have to burn and be consumed till the day of resurrection.
- 4. God only knows when that day shall be.

The 4th line is sometimes written as ين ابكي بي which has been wrongly written as خدا ذرنو قيامت تابكي بي i.e., the scribe has changed the into and i in خداذونا zuna to i ta. The form خداذونا is the equivalent of the Persian خداداناد which is used in case of doubt.

#### 28.

- 1. When spring comes in every garden there are roses,
- 2. On every bough a thousand nightingales;
- 3. I cannot set my foot on every meadow,
- 4. Lest there be one more burnt (in heart) than I.

Note the play upon the words عزار and بلبل; a nightingale is called a عزار or هزاره. Hafiz says:—

عندلیبان را چه پیش آمد هزاران را چه شد

- 1. I am that sea which has come in a vessel,
- 2. I am that point which has come to be pronounced;
- 3. In every thousand (years) an upright statured person appears.
- 4. I am the Alif Kad (upright one) that has come in (this) thousand.

30.

- 1. I am that fire-like bird, that, in an instant,
- 2. Will burn the world if I clap my wings together;
- 3. And should a painter draw my figure on the wall,
- 4. I would burn the house from the effects of my image.

Mirza Habib's emendation is very proper, as the context clearly proves. Note the word ديوال which is the equivalent in Raji of ديوار.

31.

- 1. If my heart is my sweetheart, what is my sweetheart's name?
- 2. And if my sweetheart is my heart, from what region is my heart?
  - 3. I have my heart and my sweetheart so intimately interwoven,
- 4. That I do not know which is my heart and which my sweetheart.

- 1. If I am in love with the face of a beloved one,
- 2. Restrain me not, as I am the thrall of my heart.
- 3. O, Camel-driver! for God's sake drive slowly,
- 4. For I am a laggard behind this caravan.

The poet means that he is in love and tells his counsellor not to restrain him, as he is in the power of his heart, which carries him wheresoever his beloved goes. He begs or beseeches the Camel-driver to drive on slowly, so that he may be enabled to catch the caravan by which his beloved is travelling, as through weakness he has lagged behind.

33.

- 1. That the picture of thy beauty, Love, may not quit my heart.
- 2. That the thought (or image) of thy down and thy mole, Love, may not escape
  - 3. I have made a hedge from my eyelashes round the eyes,
  - 4. That blood may come and thy image, Love, may not escape.

The translator has evidently taken the word parchin, a hedge, to be purchin, wrinkled, hence the translation "wrinkled eyes." The poet says that he has made a hedge out of his eyelashes, in order to prevent the thought or image of his beloved from getting out as the thorns (the eyelashes) will draw blood, and prevent the escape of the thought or image.

34.

This is not by Baba Tahir, nor is it of the same metre.

35.

- 1. Of plundered hearts he has more than a thousand,
- 2. Of bleeding livers (hearts) he has more than thousands;
- 3. He counted thousands of scars from my wounds,
- 4. Yet the uncounted are more than the counted ones.

to suit their own sweet will. In the 1st line هزارش should be substituted for هزارت به similarly هزارنت in the 2nd line. In the 3rd line, the first is مزارانش and the second word is ريش a wound. Since شهرت or اشهرت "he counted" is the third person singular, the in the words هزارش alludes to the same person. The poet says that though he (his beloved) counted more than thousands of scars, ويش still the uncounted exceed those that have been counted. The last word in the 1st, 2nd, and the 4th lines should be vishan, and not ويش ويش ويش ويش ويش. It will be observed that the metre has in no way been affected.

36.

- 1. Do not twist thy dishevelled hyacinths (i.e., hair),
- 2. Do not fill thy drunken narcissi (i.e., the eyes) with tears;
- 3. If thou art bent on cutting off thy love from me,
- 4. Time will cut it off, do not hasten on.

Instead of پراز in the 2nd line پراز would be better, and this reading I have adopted, because it is not necessary to make the beloved shed tears of blood, the mere filling up of the eyes with tears being sufficient. The first وريني is to be pronounced varini, and the second vorini, and similarly vorina in the 4th line. The first is the Raji form of ورينه, and the second is derived from ورينه voridan, to cut, sever = Persian بريدن.

37.

- 1. O, strong-hearted one! thy heart does not burn for me;
- 2. It would not be strange if stone does not burn;
- 3. But I will burn till I burn thy heart,
- 4. For green wood does not burn alone in the fire.

In the 1st line دلسوختی means "to take pity," but in the 3rd line بسوجونم دلت را means that "I will make your heart burn, "i.e., "make you feel." There is a proverb ترو خشك باهم ميسوزد green and dry wood burn together." This is made use of to express that in a general conflagration everything is consumed. The poet here alludes to this and says that he will burn himself and so inflame or consume the heart of the beloved also. The 2nd line may also be translated as: "What wonder if stone (i.e., thy heart) does not burn."

- 1. My heart is distraught through thy love,
- 2. And when I strike my eyelashes together, a torrent arises;

- 3. The lover's heart is like green wood,
- 4. Burning at one end, and pouring blood at the other.

39.

- 1. Without thee my heart is not happy for a single moment,
- 2. And if I see thy face grief disappears;
- 3. If they distribute the grief of my heart,
- 4. No heart in all the world would remain without grief.

40.

- 1. Thou hast chain-like (curly) locks falling upon thy face,
- 2. (As if) thou hast Rose and Hyacinth mingled together;
- 3. But when thou scatterest the strands of thy locks,
- 4. Thou wilt have a heart suspended from every strand of hair.

41.

- 1. O may thy sun-like face grow brighter;
- 2. May my heart be pierced still more by the arrow of thy love;
- 3. Dost thou know why thy cheek's mole is black?
- 4. Because, whatever is near the sun is more burnt.

The word ساهن though the plural form of سياة is often used for the singular also.

42.

- 1. The breeze that comes from the roots of those locks,
- 2. Is more welcome to me than the perfume of hyacinths;
- 3. When at night I take thy thought in my arms,
- 4. At dawn the scent of roses arises from my bed.

In the 3rd line should be used, as it shows the cause of the scent of roses arising from his bed.

43.

- 1. O thou, from whose two locks I string my rabab,
- 2. What seekest thou from this my wretched state?
- 3. When thou hast no wish to be my friend,
- 4. Why comest thou every midnight in my dream?

In the 3rd line I have used توگربامو which is the only correct form, and Mr. Browne's suggestion is very proper. سرياري داشتن means "to wish to be friend one."

- 1. Thou whose soft eyes are surma dyed,
- 2. Thou whose flourishing stature (figure) is heart attracting,
- 3. Thou whose musky hair (plaid) are on thy back,
- 4. Why askest thou me "Wherefore art thou confounded?"

'Why askest thou me, "Wherefore art thou without name or shame." Whosoever is a lover, what is name and shame to him.' The poet means that when you have such ravishing eyes, such a lovely figure, and such musk-scented (or may be musk-coloured) hair, it is strange to ask me why I am confounded; that is, with all these forces arrayed against me it is difficult for me to keep myself safe.

#### 45.

- 1. How pleasant it is when love is reciprocal,
- 2. Because one-sided friendship is a trouble;
- 3. If Majnun had a distracted heart,
- 4. Leila's heart was still more distracted.

In the 1st line is is the correct word, as it means "how," while means "whereas" or "because." Mr. Browne is right regarding the use of the word if for in the same line.

#### 46.

- 1. Come one evening and illumine my chamber;
- 2. Do not leave me in the affliction of the day of separation.
- 3. By the pair of thy eyebrow's arches I swear,
- 4. That I am yoked to grief since I am separated from thee.

The 4th line of Mr. Allen's edition will not scan properly, and should be نازتو instead of از تو instead of از تو

It is strange that in the note on this line, page 52, Mr. Allen gives من عند عند does not mean "fever" here but "thou" or rather "thee" after الزامة.

- 1. Art thou a lion or a leopard, O Heart, O Heart?
- 2. That thou warrest ever with me, O Heart?
- 3. Shouldst thou fall into my hands, I'll spill thy blood,
- 4. To see of what colour thou art, O Heart, O Heart.

In the 3rd line فتى feti is the contraction as well as the dialectal form of افتادى; it is the subjunctive of افتادى.

The 4th line is not correctly rendered. چه رنگی means "of what colour thou art," and alludes to the heart and not to the blood; the expression چه رنگی means "of what material thou art made."

In the 3rd line وريزم and بريجم are both correct; but in the 4th line, I would use بونيم as it is not elegant to bring two واو vāvs together, as in چه رنگ هستی = چه رنگي. و وينم

48.

- 1. O, my Beauty! thou hast my heart and soul,
- 2. Thou hast all my apparent and hidden effects;
- 3. I know not from whom I have this grief (pain);
- 4. I only know that thou holdest the remedy.

The 2nd line will not scan correctly with نهانم, and is right, and so I have substituted the correct word ينهانم.

49.

- 1. Shouldst thou come, I will welcome thee with my soul,
- 2. Shouldst thou not come, I will burn from thy separation.
- 3. Whatever sorrows thou hast, lay them on my heart,
- 4. Whether I die of them, or be consumed by them, or bear them.

From the note on page 82, on line 1, it appears that the translator has taken the word to mean and translates it "by thy life," whereas means with my soul (welcome) thee," the being in the accusative. Then again in the note on the 3rd line he says, "i.e., the pains thou canst inflict;" but this is not what the poet means. The poet says, if you have any grief or sorrow, lay it on my heart, and care not whether I die of it, or be consumed by it, or bear up with it, i.e., I will gladly bear all thy grief and sorrow and leave thee happy and free from every care.

- 1. The tulips of the hill-side last only a week,
- 2. The violets on the river brink last only a week;
- 3. I will proclaim from town to town,
- 4. That the fidelity of the rosy-cheeked lasts only a week.

From the translator's note on line 1, page 54, it appears that he has read the word مُفَقَهُ "of a week's duration," with the accent on the third syllable, like يك مالكي and يك مفتكي. But the accent is on the second syllable, and means "only a week." Sheikh Baha-ud-Din'in his Nān-o-Halwa says گركسي گويد كه ازعبرت هيين \* هفتهٔ صانده است و اين گردد يقين means "a week," and not "of a week's duration." "If one were to tell you that of your life, Only a week remains, and this becomes certain."

His other remark regarding the hamza in the hamza in shows that he has not read examples where poets use their license. He has evidently read it as if it consisted of four syllables, whereas in the present case, it should be read like a word of three syllables, i.e., it should be pronounced a-la-lai, and not a-la-la-ye, and thus it will not injure the metre. Innumerable examples of this may be cited from the older authors. Khakani says:

بيلة توكرد روى مه و زهره را خجل is pronounced bilai as a word of two syllables and not bila-ye. It is not so in the case of بنوشه where the izafat is not required at all, and so the comparison does not hold good.

In the 3rd line, the word شهرون is the correct word, being the plural of مهر and there appears no reason to change it into مهر an Arabic word, and then to corrupt it; such an emendation will spoil the sense of the last couplet. For the last two lines I remember having read somewhere the following two lines:— چرا جورت کشم سالان و صاهان \* ترا یاری بیاران بیاران .

- 3. "Why should I bear thy tyranny for years and months,
- 4. Thy friendship to friends is for a week only." Probably these two lines may be the two last lines of another Quatrain, the first two lines of which are wanting.

51.

- 1. My heart is grieved (sorrowful) in thine absence,
- 2. My pillow is a brick and bed the earth;
- 3. My sin is that I love thee,
- 4. Yea, whosoever loves thee, this is his condition.

From every point of view the Quatrain as given by the author of the Majma-ul-Fusaha, is preferable to every other version of the same; hence my adopting it.

52.

- 1. I am that taper whose tears are of fire;
- 2. He who is burnt in heart, can his tears be other than this?
- 3. All night I burn and all day I weep,
- 4. Like those are my nights and such my days from thee (thy tyranny).

J. 1. 3

- 1. Without thee tears come from my wet eyelashes,
- 2. Without thee the tree of my hope becomes barren,
- 3. Without thee night and day in a solitary corner,
- 4. I sit till my life comes to an end.

I have made this emendation in the 4th line, i.e., substituted عبر موسرايو for عبر برسر ايو as it is not idiomatic to say برسر ايو but و مسرايو or بسرايو or سرايو .

54.

- 1. O heart, I wear blue clothes in thy absence,
- 2. I bear the burden of thy grief like the tent-carrying elephant;
- 3. I boast of thy love like the dawn,
- 4. From this moment till the time of Israfil's trumpet.

In Persia indigo-blue, black or antimony (surma) coloured clothes are worn in mourning; nil is indigo, and not purple.

In the 2nd line the last word is عنا an elephant, and not بنا ail; hence غنا zail cannot rhyme with nil and sarafil. غنا jama means clothes, as well as carpets and other articles used for spreading, which I have translated as "tent" here. Note the colour of the elephant which has a dark bluish tint. Other poets have used the words نيا together, keeping the colour of the latter in view. Cf. Firdousi:

مرا سهم دادی که در پای پیل \* تنم را بسازی چو دریای نیل

"You threatened me that under the feet of elephants

"You will make my body like the river Nile."

The colour of the Nile, from the meaning of the word, is supposed to be blue.

The translator considers this Quatrain to be free from dialectical forms. This is true in one sense, that is, as far as writing is concerned. But in pronunciation it differs in so far, that the words وزم - كشم - پوشم are pronounced in Raji as pushum, kashum, zanum, and not as in modern Persian, pusham, kasham, and zanam.

In the 4th line, note the play upon the second word of dam; dam means the "moment" also "blowing," where it stands for the verb so that the line means "from this moment till the moment or time of Israfil's trumpet" or "from this moment till the blowing of Israfil's trumpet."

- 1. The vessel of my happiness is full of grief (liver's or heart's blood),
  - 2. My heart is ever full of fire and my eyes ever wet;

- 3. With thy perfume I should gain life after death,
- 4. If haply thou should pass over my grave (earth).

Saadi has expressed the same idea in his طيبات Taiyibat, where he says:—

بوی معشوق چوبرخاک احبا گذرد \* چه عجب کز انرش زنده شود عظم رمیم

- "Should the perfume of the beloved pass over the earth of the lovers,
- "What wonder that from its effects the rotten bones may come to life."

Or, compare the couplet of Hafiz:-

بعد صد سال اگر بوی توبر خاک وزد ۴ سربر ارد ز کفن رقص کنان عظم رمیم

- "Should thy perfume blow over the earth even after a hundred years,
- "The rotten bones will come out of the winding sheet dancing."
  Note the word play on مدام in connection with مدام, as the word سعام means "ever," "always," as well as "wine."

56.

This Quatrain is not Baba Tahir's, nor is its metre the same as that used by the Baba. The word Kirman has another meaning, besides the two quoted by Mr. Allen. It means "grapes;" hence the origin of the name of Kirmanshahan where a thousand grape-vines were planted, and several kings had assembled round the throne of Khusrau Parviz who exclaimed the words Kirman (grapes) and Shahan (kings), which became the name of the place where this grand assembly had been held (vide Farhang-i-Anjuman-Ara-i-Nasiri, under the word Kirmanshahan.) The allusion to eating in the two expressions ورمان خوردن خوردن أنه more appropriate in regard to grapes than conquering Kirman, though the word "play" has been very cleverly introduced here. The meaning is, that "the king who in the fulness of his power was eating grapes, to-day the worms are devouring him," or in Saadi's lines, "I had set my heart to eat grapes, when suddenly the worms devoured me."

57.

- 1. Dark is my lot, Oh that my lot may be topsy-turvy;
- 2. Ruined is my fortune, Oh that my fortune may be overturned;
- 3. I have become a thorn and a thistle of the lane of Love
- 4. By the doings of my heart; O Lord! that it may be drowned in blood.

In these lines it will be observed that the poet-curses his lot, his fortune and his own heart.

The word کوی should be substituted for کوی being more appropriate.

The terminal word experior is equivalent to experior in the form of a prayer or curse. but the latter, when used as a form of prayer or curse becomes experior and here the word experior is or experior or curse becomes experior and here the word experior or curse becomes experior ex

58.

- 1. Since the day Thou createdst us,
- 2. What hast Thou seen in us save sin?
- 3. O, Lord! for the sake of Thy Twelve Imams,
- 4. Forgive me, as if Thou hadst not seen my sins.

The proverb شتردیدی "Didst thou see the camel?" the reply is "No." The poet has made it شتردیدی ندیدی for the sake of metre, which when translated would be, "Didst thou see the camel? Thou didst not see it." The poet prays God to forgive him the sins He has seen him committing, and asks Him that his sins may be condoned.

M. Huart's note is correct as regards the proverbial expression; but the translator gives a Turkish proverb, which is wide of the mark; the Turkish proverb means that "there is no escape from death," that is, that death is a certainty, and the Turkish proverb has no connection with the proverb مُدَر دَيْنِي نَّهُ which means that if asked whether you have seen the camel, say no, that is "pass over my sins as if you had not seen any sin in me." It is, therefore, a pleading for forgiveness of sins and not for long life.

The Quatrain is genuine and not spurious.

59.

- 1. The grief of the whole world is my soul's portion,
- 2. Freedom from my pains is alchemy;
- 3. Every one's pain at last is cured,
- 4. It is my heart alone whose remedy is annihilation.

In the 2nd line the word کیمیا is used to show that it exists only in name, and similarly my freedom from pain is an impossibility. and اکسیر and اکسیر Elixir, are also used to denote rare things; for instance we say in Persian, وجودش کیمیاست, i.e., it is very rare or it exists not. The word عنقا "a fabulous bird" is used in a similar sense.

- 1. Let me go and return, and get out of this world,
- 2. Let me depart and go further than China and Machin;

- 3. Let me go and ask the Hajis of Haj,
- 4. If this distance is enough or may I journey further on.

The word بشم here is in the imperative mood and corresponds to the English poetic form "go we."

61.

- 1. My tender beloved, where art thou?
- 2. Where art thou, my beloved with Surma-dyed eyes?
- 3. The breath has reached Tahir's bosom (throat);
- 4. At this moment of departure, O my beloved! where art thou?

62.

- 1. Thou who hast not learnt heavenly lore,
- 2. Thou who hast not tracked the way to the Tavern,
- 3. Thou who knowest not thy own gain or loss,
- 4. Alas, alas! how canst thou overtake the men of decided character?

63.

- 1. I saw a little husbandman in this field,
- 2. Who was sowing tulips with the blood of his eyes;
- 3. He was ever sowing and saying, Alas!
- 4. That one has to sow and leave it behind in this field.

Mr. Allen's edition of the text does not contain this Quatrain which I have added with its translation. It is given in the Farhang-i-Anjuman-Ārā-i-Nāṣiri under the word \*\*M\* Alala.

Finis.

هو المعز

اشعار

بابا طاهر همدانی رح

در زبان راجي

dsistan

میر**ز**ا مهد*ی* خان کوک*ب* 

# بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

سخون واته كون وا ته نشينن بشم آنان بوینم که ته وینن

خرم آنان که هزمان رو ته وینن گرم بيائي نه بي كايم ته ويذم

اگر رویاد هرگر کس مبویاد رخش از خون دل هوگز مشو یاد

بیتهٔ یارب به بستان گل مرو یاد بتبه گر دل بخنده لب گشاا یه

بحدد و قل هو الله كا رشون بي بهشت جاودان بازار شـون بي خوشا آنان كه الله يارشون بي خوشا آذان کهٔ دائم در نمازن

گنه از برگ دارون بیش دیـرم مو درکف نومه سودر پیش دیرم

صواز قالوا بلي تشويش ديـــوم چو فردا نومه خونون نومه خونن

∞والا بر اشک خونین تا که بوشم تو كم از در براني وا كه بوشـم

خداوندا که بوشم با که بوشم همم کر در برانن سوتهٔ آیسم

باین بي خانماني برکيا نشم ته گر از در برانی بر کیا نشم

باین بی آشیانی بر کیا نشــم همم از در بوانی سوته آیهم

براني گر بخواري از که ترسي دو عالم دل ته داری از که ترسی

کشیمون اربزاری از که ترسی موبا این نیمه دل از کس نتوسم

وگر بی نیاو دستیم از تم ایمون

اگر مستان مستیم از ته ایمون اگر گو ژیم وترسا ور مسلمان بهر ملت که هستیم از ته ایمون

عيار زر خالص بو ته ذو نو که قدر سوته دل دل سوته ذونو

نوای ناله غم اند و تسه ذو نو بوره سوته دلون واهم بذاليهم

مدامش باغدان خونین جگر بی اگر بارش همه لعل و گهرو بی هران باغي که دارش سر بدر بي بداید کندنش از بیخ و از بس

گذر گالا تو بر او ج فلک بے بر افکن تا کھ بارت کمقرک بے دلا رالا تو بي خارو و خسک بي گو از دستت برآیو پوست از تن

سخن وا هم كويم غم وانمايم هرآن سوته نویم سنگین تو آیم

بوره سوته دلون گرد هم آيم ترازو آوريم غمها به سنجيم

زهجر آن گل رعنا بنالیسم بشيم با بلبل شيدا به گلش ، اگر بلبل ذذاله ما بناليهم

بورد سوته دلون هون تا بناادم

سیه چشمي برد بر بال موتد\_و هوان غافل چود غافل خوردتيو

جره بازی بدم رفتم به نخهپیر برو غافل مچر در کوهسارون

زشور انگریزی دور فلک بسی که دایم چشم زخم پو نمک بی روان سيل سوشكم نا سمك بي

رولا گو دود آهـم قا سمـوات

شو و روزان در آزارم ازیدها زمو بستون که بیزارم از ایندل خداوندا زبس زارم از ایندل زبس نالیدم از نالیدنم کشت

 $( + \wedge )$ 

سرشک از دیده بارونم شو و روز هدي ذرنم که ذالونم شو و روز مو که سر در بیا بونم شو و روز نه تو ديرم نه جايم ميکرو درد (19)

بالابي دل بالابي دل بالابسي گنه چشمون کرو دل مبتالا بسي اگر چشمون نه ويذن روي زيبا چه ذونو دل که خوبون در کجابي

( + + )

زدست دیده و دل هر دو فریاد که هر چه دیده وینه دل کنه یاد بسازم خنجری نیشش ز پولاد زنم بر دیده تا دل گــرده آزاد

(r)

دلي ديرم که بهبودش نميبو نصيحت ميکرم سودش نميبو بهدر الله دودش نميبو به الله مي نهم دودش نميبو به الله مي نهم دودش نميبو

(rr)

موآن رندم که نامم بي قلندر نهخون ديرم نه مون ديرم نه لنگر چو روز آيه بگردم گرد گيتي چو شو آيه بخشتي وانهم سـر

( 44)

بعالم همچومودیوانگ نده بگیتی همچومودیوانگ نده همه مارون ومورون لانه دیرن من بیجاره را ویرانده نده

( rr )

ز کشت خاطرم جزغم نرویو زباغم جز گل ماتم نرویرو ز صحرای دل بیحاصل مو گیالا نا امیدی هم نرویرو

(ra)

دلي ذارک بسان شيشه ام بي اگر آهي کشم انديشه ام بي سوشکم گر بولا خونين عجب ني مو آندارم که در خون ريشه ام بي

( ۲7 )

اگر در دم يکي بودي چه بودي وگر غم انده کي بودي چه بودي بداليذه مي بودي چه بودي بداليذه مي بودي چه بودي بداليذه مي بودي چه بودي

(rv) .

بنالیدن دام مانذه نی بی بی مدامم درد هجرانت زپی بی بی مرا سو زو گدازی تا قیامت خدا ذو نو قیامت راکه کی بی مرا سو زو گدازی تا قیامت خدا دو نو قیامت راکه کی بی بی مرا

( r A )

بهار آيو بهر باغي گلي بــي بهر شاخي هزاران بلبلي بــي بهر مرزي نيارم يا نهــادن مباد از مو بدر سو ته دلي بــي

(rq)

موان بحرم كه درظرف امدستم موان نقطه كه در حرف امدستم بهر الفي الف قدي براير الفي الف قدم كه در الف امدستر

( m· )

موام آن آذرین مرغی که در حال بسوجم عالم ار برهـم زنم بال مصور گر کشه نقشم بدیوال بسوجم خونه از تاثیـر تمدّـال

( 17)

اگر دل دادر ها دادر چه نومه و گو دادر دانه دل از چه بومه دل و دادر بهم آیته دیرم نفوذم دل که و دادر کرو مهد

( mr )

بروي دلدري گرمسا يلستم مكن منعم گرفتسار د لستم خدارا ساربون آهسته ميران كه مو وا ماندهٔ اين قافلستم

( mm )

زدل نقش جمالت در نشي يار خيال خط و خالت در نشي يار مردم بگر د ديده پر چين که خون آيه خيالت در نشي يار

( mo )

هزارش دل بغارت برده ویشن هزارانش جگر خون کرده ویشن هزاران داغ ویش از ریشم اشهرد هذی تشمرده از اشمرده ویشن

( ٣4 )

پریشان سنبلان برتاو مکه خمسارین نرگسان پر آو مکه ورینی ته که مهر از ما ورینی ورینه روزگار اشتاو مکه

( mv )

دلت اي سنگدل بر مانسو جه عجب نبوه اگر خارا نسوجه بسو جسم تا بسو جونم دلت را در آتش چوب تر تنها نسوجه

( m^ )

دلم از دست عشقت گیرو ویرده موده برهم زنم سیدللب خیرده دلم از دست عشقت گیرو ویرده موری سوجه سری خونا به ریرده

( ma )

بيته يكدم دلهم خرم نمونه وگر روي تو وينم غم نمونه اگر درد دلم قسمت نموين دلي بيدر درد عالم نمونه

( p. )

مسلسل زلف بر رو ریده دیري گل و سنبل بهم آمیه دیري پریشان چون کري آن تار زلفون بهر تاري دلي آوینه دیري

(14)

خورآئین چهره ات افروته تربی دلم از نیر عشقت دونه تربی چرا خال رخت ذونی سیاهن هرآن نزدیك خوربی سوته تربی

( 44 )

نسیمی کزبن آن کا کل آیو موا خوشتر زبوی سنبل آیو چو شوگیرم خیالت رادر آغوش سحر از بسترم بوی گل آیو

( kh )

دو زلفونت کشه تار ربا بم چه میخواهی ازین حال خرابم تو گر بامو سریاری نسداری چوا هر نیمه شوآئی بخوابم

( hts )

ته کت نا زنده چشمون مسرمه سائي ته کت بالنده بالا دلـربائي ته کت مشکینه گیسو در قفائي ابي واجي که سر گردون چرائي

( 69 )

چه خوش بي مهرباني از دوسربي که يك سر مهرباني درد سربي اگر مجذون دل شوريدهٔ داشت دل ليلي از آن شوريده تربي

( ry )

بوره یکشو مذور کن و ثاقم مهل در محنت روز فراقم بجفت طاق ابروی تو سوگند که موجفت غیم آ از تو طاقم

( kv )

مگر شیرو پلنگی ایدل ایدل بمو دایم بجنگی ایدل ایدل ایدل اگر دستم فتی خونت وریژم بوینم تاچه رنگی ایدل ایدل

( rx )

نگارینا دل و جانم ته دیری همه پیدا و پنهانم ته دیری ندونم موکه این درد از که دیرم همی ذونم که در مانم ته دیری

(kg)

اگر آئي بجانت وا نــوازم وگرنائــي بهجرانت گـدازم هران دردي که داري بر دلم نه بهدرم يا بسوجــم يا بسازم

( 5 + )

الالم كوهسارون هفته بي بنوشه جو كنارون هفته بي منادي ميكرم شهرون بشهرون وفاي گلعذارون هفته بي

(01)

دلم از درد هجرانت غمینه سرینم خشت و بالینم زمینه گذاهم اینکه موته دوست دیرم هر آنکت دوست داره جالش اینه

( or )

موآن شعمم که اشکم آذرین بي کسي کوسوته دل اشکش جزاین بي همه هم که اشکم وزرم چنین بي همه مورز درم چنین بي

( 37 )

بیته اشکم زمر گان تر ایو بیته نخل امیدم بی بر ایو بیته در کنج تنهائی شو و روز نشینم تاکه عمر موسر آیو

( %)

دلا پوشم بهجوت جامهٔ نیل کشم بار غمت چون جامه بر پیل دم از مهرت زنم همچون دم صبح از ایندم تا دم صور سرافیل

(00)

خم عیشم پر از خون جگربی مدامم دل پرآدز دیده تربی ببویت زندگی یادم پس از مرگ ترا گر برسر خاکه گهدربی

( bv )

سیه بختم که بختم سرنگون بی تولا روژم که روژم واژ گون بی شدم خاروخس کوی محبت زدست دل که یارب غرق خون بی

( 64 )

از آن روزي که مار آفریدي بغیر از معصیت از ما چه دیدي خداوندا بعق هشت و چارت زمو بگذر شتر دیدي ندیدي

(09)

غم دوران نصیب جان ما بي زدرد مسا فراغت کیمیسابي رسم ۲خر بدر مون درد هر کس دل مابي که درمونش فذابي

( 4. )

بشم واشم ازین عالم بدرشم بشم از چین و ما چین دیر ترشم بشم از حاجیان حج بدرسم که این دوري بسه یا دیر ترشم

(41)

نگار تازه خین مو کجائی بچشمون سرمه زیر مو کجائی نفس برسینهٔ طاهر رسیده دم رفتن عزیز مو کجائی

( 77 )

ته که نا خواندهٔ عله مسوات ته که نا برده یی در خرابات ته که سود و زیان خود نذونی بهردون کی رسی هیهات هیهات هیهات

( 44)

یکی بر زیگرک دیدم دریندشت بخون دیدگان آلاله میکشت همی کشت و همیگفت ایدریغا که باید کشتن و هشتن دریندشت

تبت